Government. However, this Department has taken several steps to improve road safety, which are given below:

(i) Road safety is the integral part of road design at the planning stage for National Highways/Expressways.

(ii) Various steps to enhance road safety such as road furniture, road markings/road signs, introduction of Highways Traffic Management System using Intelligent Transport System, enhancement of discipline among contractors during construction, road safety audit on selected stretches, have been undertaken by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI).

(iii) Refresher training to Heavy Motor Vehicle drivers in the unorganized sector.

(iv) Involvement of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) for road safety activities by the Department of Road Transport and Highways and NHAI.

(v) Setting up of Model Driving Training School in the country by the Department of Road Transport and Highways.

(vi) Publicity campaign on road safety awareness through audio-visual-print media by the Department of Road Transport and Highways.

(vii) Conferring of National Award for voluntary organizations/individual for outstanding work in the field of road safety by Department of Road Transport and Highways.

(viii) Tightening of safety standards of vehicles.

(ix) Provision of cranes and ambulances to various State Governments/NGOs under National Highway Accident Relief Service Scheme by Department of Road Transport and Highways. National Highways Authority of India also provides ambulances at a distance of 50 Km. on each of its completed highways under its Operation and Maintenance contracts.

(x) Widening and improvements of National Highways from 2 lanes to 4 lanes and 4 lanes to 6 lanes etc.

Development of Bedi port

3362. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has received the proposal from the State Government of Gujarat for development of Bedi port under the NMDP scheme;

(b) if so, the time when the proposal was received; and

(c) the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) One minor port from each Maritime State, including Magdalla in Gujarat, were identified for development under the National Maritime Development Programme during the Eleventh Five Year Plan. But, since no fund could be allocated for this purpose in the Eleventh Plan, development of the minor ports may be taken up by the State Governments themselves.